

*Michelle  
&  
Griffin*







# *Hello!*

Thank you for letting us be a small part of your story as you consider all the options for yourself and your child. We know this isn't an easy decision, and however you move through it is entirely your own choice. You have every right to consider every path for you and your child's future.

As you look through this book, our hope is that you come away knowing how much we care about you as a person. We view adoption beyond simply welcoming a child into our family and would love to have an ongoing and meaningful relationship with a mother for life. If adoption is the path you choose, we want you to know we are all in and committed to creating a home where a child feels safe, loved, and free to become themselves and honoring the connection they have with you.

No matter what you decide, we are praying for you to experience peace and support in your decision no matter where that leads. You are making this decision out of love and whatever you decide will be the right choice for you and your little one. Even if our paths never cross, we're grateful for the chance to share a little of who we are with you.

*With love,  
Griffin and Michelle*



You are the only one I'll ever  
love... if it's not you, it's not  
*anyone*



We met through mutual friends at church in the spring of 2019 and started dating quickly after meeting. The Covid lockdowns happened a few months into our dating and we were able to spend a lot of time together, especially outside! We enjoyed throwing frisbee and football, playing card games (Rummy!), and cooking together while dating and still enjoy all of those now that we're married. We were drawn to each other's fun-loving personality, work ethic, family values, and faith as a source of warmth and peace and in our lives.



Griffin proposed in 2021 at the church we met at and surprised Michelle by having her family, Griffin's brother and sister-in-law from Chicago, and our friends celebrate with us after the proposal. Michelle was very surprised and didn't even realize Griffin had a ring! Griffin had found Michelle's Pinterest board of engagement rings and collaborated with her childhood best friend on the ring design- it was so thoughtful of him! We were married in October of 2021, and our wedding day was full of some of our favorite things- good food, being with our family and friends, and a fun dance floor! It was a beautiful day, and we look back fondly on how loved we felt being surrounded by all our friends and family, especially since many traveled a long distance to be with us. Our favorite moments from the wedding day were standing at the altar and looking out at the audience to see all our friends and family and feeling deeply loved and grateful and dancing with everyone at the wedding reception.



A fun fact about our wedding is that our first dance song was Anyone by Justin Bieber- we heard Justin Bieber play in concert a few weeks before our wedding and knew that had to be our song!

# Michelle



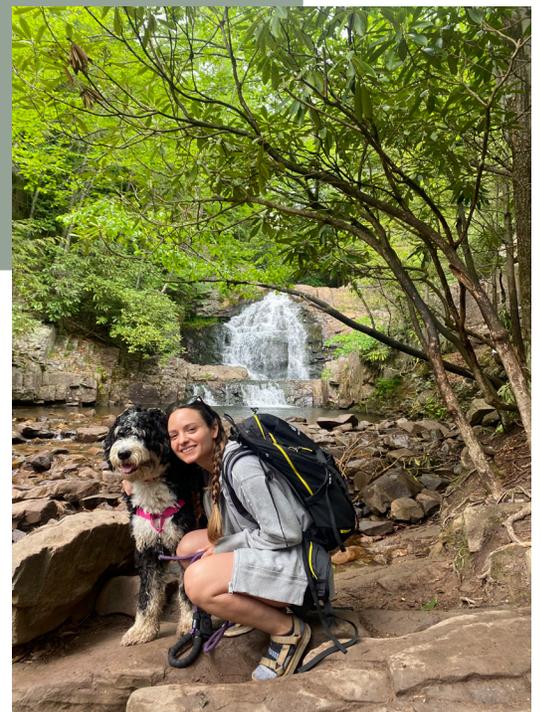
I grew up in a suburb of Cincinnati, Ohio with my parents and two brothers. My parents homeschooled us and I valued all the quality time we had together. I always loved being outside and especially enjoyed making forts, playing “make-believe” games with friends, crafting, and camping trips with scouts (my mom was my scout leader, and I loved the extra time together).

Griffin and I moved a few years ago so I could earn my master’s in nursing because I wanted to be able to do more for more patients (and have a normal job schedule for family life). My first nursing jobs were as a children’s nurse and at a mental health hospital. While I was in graduate school, I worked as a labor and delivery nurse. Helping moms during their births was incredibly rewarding and I loved the experience of working with moms and babies. Currently, I work as a nurse for a health insurance company and make sure that doctors, hospitals, and nursing homes are providing the best care for their patients and I enjoy my role very much.

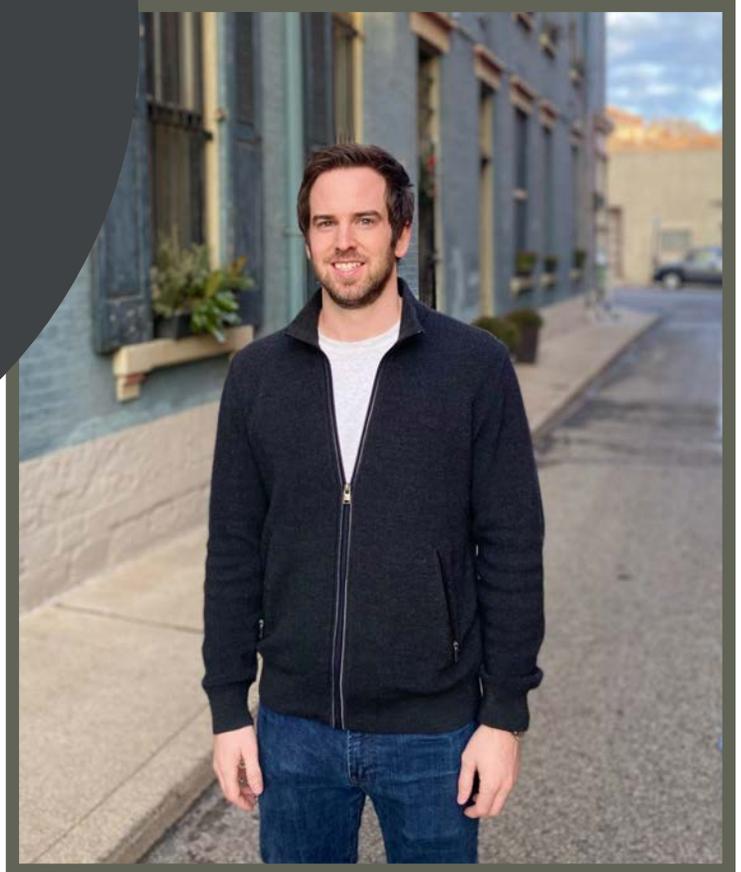
My relationships with friends and family are important to me and I feel fortunate to still be close to several of my childhood friends. I enjoy spending time with my friends, whether that’s going for walks together, coffee dates, workout classes, or just relaxing and watching reality TV together and I am grateful to have friends that show up for me in every season of life. I also love to FaceTime with my friends and their children who live farther away.



One of my hobbies is exercise and I do Pilates and biking/spin class throughout the week. I also enjoy arranging flowers and every week I arrange and display fresh flowers in our kitchen; it makes me happy when I walk by and see the flowers. I'm currently teaching myself to garden and planted some cute window flower boxes and am hoping to grow a cut flower garden on our patio next year. Reading has been a hobby of mine for several years and I enjoy reading thrillers/mysteries, personal improvement, and romantic comedies; I also love reading stories to my nieces and nephews when we visit. I am very excited to become a mom and help a child explore and learn all the world and life has to offer them!



# G riffin



I grew up in Fargo, North Dakota with my parents and two older brothers before we moved to Boise, Idaho when I was in high school. I enjoyed growing up in a small town and being around a lot of extended family. As a kid, I was always building something and I spent hours tinkering in my dad's workshop, making forts outside, or trying to figure out how things worked. I also loved sports, theater, and my dog, who was my constant companion.

Moving to Idaho in high school was a big change for me but showed me how to embrace change and that has carried throughout my adult life. For instance, I have worked in technology start ups and entrepreneurship which involves change every day since graduating college. I am the founder of a technology startup and manage a team of 30 employees; what I do during my workday changes daily and I enjoy the complexity and working with people. I love solving hard problems, building tools that make people's lives easier, and creating systems from scratch. My brain leans logical and detail-oriented, but I've always balanced that with creativity. I look forward to sharing some of my personal skills with a child and cannot wait to be a dad and experience everything that goes into being a father.

Outside of work, I'm drawn to old things like nineteenth-century literature, classical music, art, and learning violin. I also enjoy cheering for my lifelong favorite football team and love that I can share this experience with my little 10 year old nephew who's gotten into football too. Recently, I helped my older brother edit a novel and designed his website, which fit perfectly into that world of ideas and aesthetics I love.



Despite being social and high-energy at work, my favorite parts of life are the quiet ones. I'm happiest when life feels full of learning, connection, and play. I still get excited about small things: collecting Pokémon cards, playing catch with my nephew, or turning simple moments into games. I am very excited to be a dad and look forward to sharing some of my favorite things with a child and getting to know their personality and their own favorite things. Being a dad has always been a dream of mine and I look forward to this very much.





# Meet Michelle

by Griffin

Michelle is the most inspiring person I know. She has built a life marked by dedication, grace, and a quiet strength that shows in everything she does. She earned her master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania, an Ivy League university and the #1 program in her field anywhere in the world. Her drive and discipline are unmatched, yet she carries all of it with humility and calmness.

What amazes me most about Michelle is how someone so accomplished can be so gentle and grounded. She has a peaceful presence that steadies everyone around her. Friends often turn to her when they're facing something difficult, and she listens with genuine care and patience. She gives thoughtful advice and never loses sight of what matters most.

Michelle brings warmth wherever she goes. She's active, involved in our community, and still finds time to volunteer with foster children despite her busy schedule. She's playful too! Our evenings often end with her, Aoife, and me at the park throwing a frisbee or going on a leisurely walk and chatting with neighbors.

*Michelle balances strength and tenderness  
in a way I didn't know was possible.  
She makes everyone around her better,  
and I know she will be an incredible mother.*

# Meet Griffin

by Michelle

Griffin is unlike anyone I have ever met. He is thoughtful, fun-loving, humble, creative, and solutions oriented. When we host family or friends, Griffin is known for sharing our Family Menu and Visitors guide that he tailors specifically for whomever is visiting and that is just one little example of his thoughtfulness and fun-loving nature that I appreciate so much. Griffin is also very solutions oriented and hardworking; he founded a tech company that was selected for YCombinator (same group that launched AirBnB!). Despite his professional success, he's always humbled about his work and looks for ways his skillset can benefit others. For example, Griffin organizes marketing campaigns for our church as a volunteer, and I admire how he uses his skills to help others.

Griffin is goal-oriented but also has such an easy going and fun personality. He is always making me and those around us laugh and is good at putting others at ease. Friends and family value his insights because he's very levelheaded and thoughtful in the way he sees situations, and I really appreciate Griffin's gentle and insightful perspectives.

Our nephews/nieces can always count on Griffin to be the "fun" uncle and Griffin is known for dressing up as Santa at Christmas, throwing football with our 10-year-old nephew, or their new favorites- tag and puppet shows with Uncle Griffin.

*Griffin will be an amazing father that will truly meet a child where they are at and help them to grow into their most authentic self.*

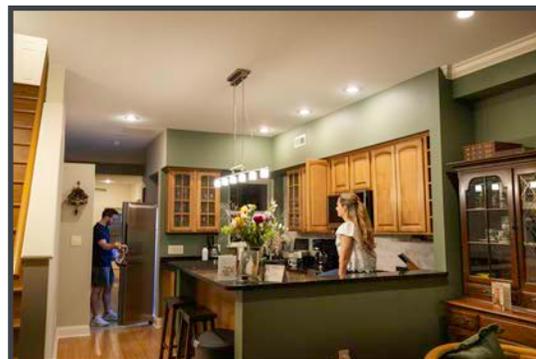


*A place to build memories in*



We purchased our 3-bedroom rowhome in Pennsylvania in early 2025 and intentionally picked a home and neighborhood that we wanted to raise children in. Our roof deck is a favorite spot in our home, and we enjoy watching the sunset over the skyline in the evenings. We also love how cozy our family room is and enjoy drinking coffee together there every morning. It has been fun to decorate our home together and we look forward to continuing to make this a wonderful home for a child to grow up in.

Our urban neighborhood feels like the best of both worlds: a family friendly residential neighborhood but just a few blocks from beautiful parks, museums, playgrounds, churches, and some fun neighborhood restaurants that we can walk to. We are near a hiking trail where neighborhood children have built little forts and a bike trail and hiking path; we look forward to biking and hiking adventures with a child as we explore our neighborhood together. When the weather is nice, it's common for neighbors to have block parties with grilling and the children enjoying chalk, bubbles, and tricycles or families enjoying pizza picnics at the park and playground. We look forward to a child experiencing all the fun and beauty in our home and neighborhood community.



# *From Relaxing to Exploring,* This is how we enjoy life.

Our mornings are usually pretty relaxed. Our jobs have flexible start times which allow us to begin our day with coffee together followed by smoothies for breakfast before Griffin goes for a run. We always say a prayer together before work, Griffin will head into the office and Michelle works from home most days. We finish our workdays in the afternoon and will take Aoife for a walk in the park before dinner

Griffin is the main chef in our home and has some weekly staples (homemade pasta and sauce) but also loves to be creative with cooking. If we're not up for cooking, we enjoy getting takeout for dinner (favorites include Thai, Chinese, or hoagie sandwiches) or eating at one of the local restaurants. In the evenings, we like to spend time together watching sports with friends, playing cards, or reading. If the weather is nice, we love to sit on our roof deck and watch the sunset. Before bed, we pray together and it's a relaxing and peaceful way to end the day.

On the weekends, we are pretty social and enjoy trying new things in the city! On Saturdays, we like to pick a new restaurant or neighborhood in the city to explore. We often spend time with our friends whether that is cooking dinner together, watching sports, or attending an event in the city (we recently attended opera at the park).. We attend a Catholic church for mass every Sunday and Griffin cooks a "fancier" Sunday meal for us to enjoy.



# *We are grateful to be surrounded*

by a supportive and thoughtful community near and far. We moved to our current city four years ago and made friends through our church quickly and many of our friends are other married couples with babies and young children. It has been fun to experience many "firsts" with our friends' children such as their first 4th of July fireworks and first time riding the bus in the city. Michelle and her friends enjoy monthly "girls' nights" which often include making seasonal treats/food (Michelle's watermelon salad was a favorite this summer), book discussions, and attempting to do crafts but we usually just end up catching up on each other's lives. Griffin and his friends enjoy trying new foods and restaurants (they have a favorite Chinese restaurant they often end up at) or cooking (sometimes the husbands will grill or cook together for the wives which Michelle always appreciates!) and they also enjoy watching or attending sporting events together.

We have both moved states a few times throughout our lives and have maintained close friendships throughout various life phases. We love to host family and friends in our home and host guests multiple times per year, and we also enjoy FaceTime and phone calls with our friends and their children that live far away. Our friends are really excited to see us as parents, and we are looking forward to seeing all the love, support, warmth, and fun a child will experience from our friends and community.



# Meet Aoife



This is Aoife (pronounced "Ee-fah"). She's our three-year-old Bernedoodle and has been part of our family since she was a puppy. Her name comes from an Irish fairy tale Griffin loved as a child about a brave and kind heroine. This name is perfect for Aoife because she has such a sweet and loyal personality.



Aoife has a calm and affectionate personality. She loves to cuddle, nap nearby while we read or cook, and quietly follow us from room to room. She's very smart and attentive, Griffin does training with her every day, and she loves learning new tricks. She knows the names of all her toys and will happily bring you the one you ask for. Aoife's favorite toys are her orange bone or her pink dragon stuffed animal "Puff".

She adores babies and children and has spent lots of time around young kids. Our friends with little ones always comment on how gentle and sweet Aoife is with their children. She's gentle, patient, and happy to let little ones hug or pet her. Aoife brings peace and warmth to our home, and we can't wait to see her become a loyal and loving friend to a child.

# Our path to Adoption

Even when we were dating, we talked about adoption as a possible way to welcome a child into our lives. Once we started trying to conceive, we experienced fertility challenges and pregnancy loss. Despite these challenges, our desire to become parents only grew stronger and we felt adoption was the path we were supposed to choose to welcome a little one into our family.

Adoption has long been a part of our lives. Michelle's cousin and a best friend from college were adopted and several of Griffin's childhood friends and classmates were adopted. We also know a birth mother personally, which has given us an even deeper respect for the courage and love behind making an adoption plan. Seeing adoption from the perspectives of adoptees, adoptive families, and a birth parent has given us a fuller understanding of the beauty, complexity, and strength that adoption holds.

We have built a strong marriage rooted in love, respect, and laughter and we are ready to share that foundation with a child. Our home is filled with warmth and support, and we look forward to nurturing a child as they grow into who they are meant to be.





# Griffin's Family

I grew up in a very close family. My parents, Jon and Linda, have been married for over forty years. My dad worked as a commercial lender and my mom was a teacher before they both retired. They're both active and social, spending time with friends and family and enjoying the slower pace of retirement. My mom still works as a volunteer substitute teacher at an elementary school and loves working with the children. My dad is someone I've always admired for his resilience and humility. He worked incredibly hard when times were tight and no matter what was happening, family always came first. My mom is endlessly energetic and devoted to her family. She's always been our biggest supporter and a constant source of advice and encouragement. My mom is a wonderful grandma and has a special relationship with each of her grandchildren; she plans little activities and crafts and always makes the kids feel special when they are with her.

I talk with both of my parents every week, usually by phone, and we see each other several times a year. They've always respected my independence while staying closely involved, and I know they're looking forward to becoming grandparents again. They visit my brothers' families and kids at the drop of the hat as often as they are invited!

I'm the youngest of three boys, and I'm very close with my brothers, Michael and Andrew. We talk often and usually have a brothers' FaceTime call every month. Michael and his wife, Katie, live in Minneapolis with their two little boys, Finn (age 1) and James (age 2). Andrew and his wife, Brenda, live in Chicago with their four children: Michael (10), Genevieve (8), Clara (6), and Bernadette (baby, born May 2025). We see each other a few times each year and are always looking for excuses to plan visits. Family gatherings are lively, full of kids running around and everyone catching up at once. One of my favorite things to do is throw the football with my little nephew Michael and it's fun to share our love of sports together.

My family is very excited for Michelle and me to become parents and can't wait to meet their new little family member!



# Michelle's Family

I have a twin brother, Ben, and a teenage brother, Dominic. Ben and his wife, Alaina, live in Minnesota and recently got married and Dominic lives in Ohio where we grew up. My parents, Bob and Joan, have been married over 35 years and are both enjoying retirement and volunteering in the community. Every week, my dad is a volunteer tour guide at an art museum and my mom works in her community garden. Volunteering and being involved in our community was a family value that I greatly appreciate and plan to continue in our family. My parents are very excited to be grandparents and look forward to forming a special bond with a child and sharing some of their favorite pastimes like museums, gardening, reading stories, and looking at birds and trees with a grandchild.

Growing up, I was homeschooled and valued all the quality time and special moments with my parents and brothers. I look forward to seeing my parents become grandparents as they've both always been naturally good with little kids from all their years of leading Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, coaching youth sports, and giving tours at the nature center and museums to school groups. My brothers are excited to become uncles and look forward to having a fun and close relationship with a niece or nephew and sharing some of their favorite things like music (singing and playing piano, guitar, and drums), playing board games and cards, and outdoor activities (swimming, frisbee, and basketball). My brother Ben is an Electrical Engineer and he designs the inside of airplanes and my little brother Dominic is finishing high school and plans to become a nurse.

Though we don't live in the same state, my parents are able to drive here to visit and we all prioritize seeing family in person- whether hosting family here or visiting their homes. My parents and little brother visit us about once a year and we go to see them another two to three times per year.

# Holiday Traditions

We love to have fun with traditions for different holidays!

Every year for **Christmas**, we pick up a live tree and decorate it with colored lights and our unique collection of ornaments. Whenever we travel, we always pick a Christmas ornament and it's a special reminder of our vacation while we decorate the tree. We are excited to share the ornament tradition with a child and think it would be fun for them to pick a new ornament every year to add to the family tree. If we don't travel for Christmas, we like to "camp out" in our living room on Christmas eve night so we can wake up right next to the Christmas tree!



For **Halloween**, we love handing out candy for trick or treaters in our neighborhood- we typically have over 100 kids come by for trick or treating and love seeing all the kids dressed in matching costumes with their families. Our tradition is to host friends while we all pass out candy to the kids together and our neighborhood is filled with families stopping by. Halloween is one of our favorite holidays because of the fun and community feel with our friends and neighbors. We carve pumpkins every year and make a family costume while we pass out candy. Last year, we dressed up as Lion King and Michelle usually makes a costume for our dog. Michelle is looking forward to making costumes for a child in the future.

# Travel Traditions

**The Fourth of July** is a big celebration in our city! We typically host friends for a barbeque, walk to see the 4th of July concert, and then come back to our home to watch the fireworks from our roofdeck. We live close to an amazing view of the fireworks and it's fun to watch the fireworks together with our loved ones. We enjoy celebrating the holidays in big and small ways and we look forward to sharing our traditions and creating new traditions with a child.



We enjoy exploring new places whether in the United States or other countries and have a goal to travel internationally at least once a year. Neither of us grew up traveling to other countries for vacation and we feel very grateful to be in the position we are in now and that we have the opportunity to travel abroad. We look forward to continuing to explore new countries and sharing the world with a child.

Our first trip to another country together was to Switzerland and France for our honeymoon and our most recent trip abroad was to Scotland in July. In Scotland, we enjoyed biking to see castles, visiting the sheep and cows, and walking along the ocean. Puerto Rico has become our favorite "beach" place to visit, and we are grateful that it's a pretty easy trip for traveling. We also love vacationing in Maine and visit every year—we enjoy walking along the ocean, biking to the lighthouses, and eating the local seafood. Italy and Acadia National Park are the next trips on our travel bucket list!



# Thank You!

We know adoption can be complex for an expecting mother and how much care it takes to walk through this process and to learn about families like ours. We hope what you have seen here gives you a real sense of the life we would offer a child. We respect the strength it takes and honor your decision for your child no matter what.

If we are chosen to become parents through adoption, these are the promises we make to you and to your child:

- We will raise them in a home that is steady, peaceful, safe and full of love.
- We will help them grow authentically into who they are meant to be with confidence and kindness.
- We will encourage curiosity and learning through strong values and good education.
- We will surround them with friends and family who will love and support them deeply.
- We will raise them in the faith and help them understand compassion, charity, and gratitude.
- We will speak of their story with honesty, gratitude, and pride, always honoring where they came from and the people who love them.
- We will pray for you and for your child each day, in gratitude for the path that brought us together.

We are humbled and grateful to be walking this journey. We are ready to share our lives and love a child completely and unconditionally.

*With love,  
Griffin and Michelle*



Cradled  
in  
Grace

ADOPTION CONSULTANTS

